



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Texans are no strangers to the threats and devastation that hurricanes can bring to our households, neighborhoods, and local economies. For generations, we have faced the extreme and overwhelming power of these storms, from the Great Galveston Storm in 1900, which took thousands of lives, to modern storms like Hurricane Rita in 2005, Hurricane Ike in 2008, and 2017's Hurricane Harvey, which caused the deaths of more than 100 people and cost our state an estimated \$125 billion in damages.

As Texas moves into the fun-filled summer months, we must remember that with the joys of our warm-weather season also come the dangers of hurricane season, which puts Texas' coastal and inland communities at a greater risk of hurricanes from June through November. There are many ways individual Texans, communities, and state agencies can prepare themselves, their families, and their employees for hurricane season, including determining their risk by knowing if they live or work in a hurricane-prone area, floodplain, or evacuation zone; developing an evacuation plan that contains a source of information about evacuation orders as well as ways to stay in touch with loved ones; assembling disaster supplies such as food and water, prescriptions, flashlights, phone chargers, and batteries; checking up on your insurance coverage; preparing and bracing your home for hurricane-force winds; and checking in on vulnerable neighbors. Remember, there are no substitutes for having a well-prepared emergency plan in place when severe weather strikes, and all Texans should take steps to prepare their property and communities for the upcoming hurricane season.

Each May, state agencies, organizations, and communities across our state and nation set aside a week to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for hurricane season and the threat of these potentially life-threatening forces of nature. During this time, individuals should prepare their property and communities for the upcoming hurricane season; state agencies should review and update their hurricane preparedness plans; and municipalities, counties, the Texas Division of Emergency Management, the Texas Education Agency, the Office of the Comptroller, the Texas Department of Insurance, and the Department of State Health Services shall, to the extent practicable, conduct community outreach and education activities on hurricane preparedness.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to remain mindful of the dangers presented by hurricanes, stay informed about current threats, and take steps to create or update your own hurricane preparedness plan. By being aware of and prepared for hurricanes, we can create a safer future for the Lone Star State.


Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim May 23-29, 2021, to be

Hurricane Preparedness Week



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
12th day of May, 2021.


Governor of Texas